Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" It is stated that the revised estimate is Rs. 737 lakhs, and that, consequently, the water-rate to be levied might have to be increased further. May I ask whether, in view of the fact that there will be decrease in the area to be irrigated in the Tanjore district, the Government still consider that there will be a possibility of the rates being increased beyond the present estimated rate of Rs. 27 per acre ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" It is only a possibility if the scheme is found practicable."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether the Government have considered the possibility of irrigating lands in Bhavani taluk by Cauveri water ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" That is one of the schemes that has been estimated for."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know if the proposal is to dig a channel from the reservoir on the western side ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I believe so ; if the hon. Member wants correct information, I should like the hon. Member to give me notice."

*Repairs to old and leaky tanks in Coimbatore district.*

*1451 *Q.*—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government received a copy of the resolution of the Ryots' Sangam of Coimbatore, dated 1st February 1928, regarding the repair of old and leaky tanks and whether in reply they sent an endorsement, dated 19th February 1928, that the Chief Engineer (Irrigation) would be asked to make a report regarding the same ; and

(*b*) whether the Government have received the Chief Engineer's report on the matter and if so, whether it will be placed on the table of the House ?

*A.*—(*a*) A copy of the resolution passed at a meeting of the District Ryots' Sangam of Coimbatore held on 29th October 1927 and 8th February 1928, was received through the Honorary Secretary of the Sangam, M.R.Ry. V. C. Vellingiri Goundar Avargal. In an endorsement, dated 19th March 1928, the Chief Engineer for Irrigation was asked to report on resolution No. 3 of the Sangam regarding the repair of old and leaky tanks, etc., and a copy of this endorsement was communicated to Mr. V. C. Vellingiri Goundar.

(*b*) The Superintending Engineer's report with its enclosure forwarded by the Chief Engineer (Irrigation) is laid on the table.[a] A further reference has been made to the Collector on the subject of the minor irrigation tanks mentioned in the Executive Engineer's letter. The resluicing of the Tadepalli and Arkenkotah channels is in abeyance until the results of the experiments on duty, absorption, etc., to be conducted in the Vaniputhur branch of the Arkenkotah channel are known. The Chief Engineer's proposals in this regard have been referred to the Board of Revenue for report.

[a] Printed as Appendix VIII on pages 111-112 infra.

[25th February 1929

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—"It is stated in the Chief Engineer's letter that 50 per cent of the estimated cost is to be borne by the ryots. May I know on what ground contribution from the ryot is asked for ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"I must ask for notice."

*Agreement between the Mysore and Madras Governments regarding the regulation of the Cauvery water.*

* 1452 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there has been any intimation from the Government of Mysore that they are not satisfied with the present agreement between that Government and the Government of Madras regarding the regulation of the Cauveri water ;

(b) whether the Government have taken any steps in the matter and, if so, to what effect ;

(c) whether it is a fact that it is contemplated to refer the disputes to a Board of Arbitration and to include some non-official gentlemen also as members of the Arbitration Board ; and

(d) whether the Government will be pleased to give a detailed statement as to how matters stand at present regarding the question ?

A.—(a) & (b) The answer to clause (a) is in the negative.

(c) & (d) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to Rules 7 and 8 of the Rules of Regulation of the Krishnarajasagara Reservoir annexed to the 1924 agreement which was placed on the Editors' table with G.O. No. 228 I., dated 3rd July 1924. Difference has arisen between the two Governments as regards Rule 8. Under that rule, the discharges corresponding to the gauge readings mentioned in Rule 7 have to be worked out on the basis of the joint gaugings of the ten years ending with 1926 and adopted for all subsequent regulation. The Mysore Darbar contend that on account of the floods of 1924 the regime of the river altered and that they cannot accept the results of the gaugings made after the floods, which gave larger discharges than in the previous years. They suggest that the gaugings for the seven and a half years preceding the floods might be taken as the basis of all future regulation. The Madras Government do not agree and insist on a strict observance of the rule as the idea of an average presupposes circumstances such as those above referred to. As no agreement could be reached, the matter is to be decided by an Arbitration Committee consisting of a High Court Judge to be nominated by both the Governments and two other arbitrators, one to be nominated by each of the Governments, the decision of the majority prevailing. There are other points of difference of a technical nature in the working of the Rules of Regulation of the Krishnarajasagara Reservoir which have not yet emerged from the stage of negotiation and in the event of a dead-lock in any or all of those questions they also may eventually have to be referred to arbitration.